

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed August 20, 2004. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 6-16, 18, and 21-26 were pending in this Application. Claims 1, 3, 6-16, 18 and 21-26 were allowed. Claim 2 was rejected.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 2 was rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Applicant has amended Claim 1 so that Claim 2 may properly depend from it.

Claim 1 now recites that the cross-sectional geometry of the filters (as well as the corresponding sections of the array) has a closed shape.

“Closed” geometrical shapes may include various polygon or circular shapes. The amendment is supported by the specification, page 7, lines 3-20. The chamber is generally tubular, which permits various cross sectional shapes. Likewise, the interior elements of the chamber 101 can have various cross-sectional shapes. Specific examples include circular (line 8) and rectangular shapes (line 12).

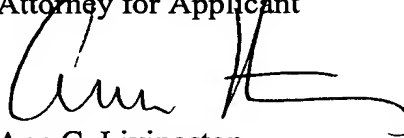
CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of all pending claims as amended.

Applicant believes there are no fees due at this time, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P. in order to effectuate this filing.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicant's attorney at 512.322.2634.

Respectfully submitted,
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